

- Bill will support local communities while reducing local tax burden -

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. John Hall voted yesterday to make key investments in infrastructure, worker training, innovation, and small businesses which will help rebuild the economy and protect communities. The Consolidated Appropriations Act (H.R. 3288), which has now passed the House of Representatives, provides short-term help for the hardest hit Americans during the economic crisis and long-term solutions to grow the economy for the future.

The legislation passed yesterday is a conference report, merging previously passed House and Senate versions of the bill into one. With House passage, the bill returns to the Senate for a final vote, before it is sent to the President to sign into law.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act invests critical funds in infrastructure, health, and education to create jobs immediately while investing in our local communities and workforce. It provides \$1.4 billion in training and support services for workers impacted by mass layoffs and plant closures. To support small businesses, it provides additional lending funds for firms having trouble borrowing capital in this market. Federal grants provide needed financial assistance to local communities, which reduces the tax burden on local taxpayers.

"This vote sends needed support to our local communities," Rep. Hall said. "This legislation will create jobs, provide local tax relief, invest in improving local infrastructure, and keep our communities safe."

The legislation makes a major commitment in funding for state and local law enforcement, increasing funding by almost half a billion dollars over 2009 levels. All told, \$3.71 billion in federal funding will go toward grants to local and state law enforcement and the prevention of domestic violence and the protection of children from sexual predators. Of that, \$792 million will go to the Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) program to support local law enforcement agencies with hiring, technology, training, body armor, and sex-offender enforcement management grants. This includes \$298 million for COPS Hiring Grants which will hire or retain 1,400 officers.

\$353.5 million in funding is provided for Adam Walsh Act activities, which includes sex offender registration requirements, and other sex offender and child exploitation prevention and enforcement programs. The bill also supports Violence Against Women prevention programs with \$418.5 million in funding to prevent and prosecute violence against women and strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

"There is no government duty more important than keeping our communities safe," Rep. Hall said. "This funding will allow local law enforcement agencies in the Hudson Valley to more effectively combat crime."

Congressman Hall successfully fought for protections for Auto Dealers to be included. The legislation includes the creation of an arbitration process for auto dealerships that lost their franchise agreements during bankruptcy proceedings for Chrysler and General Motors (GM). Nationally, about 790 Chrysler dealers were closed when Chrysler went into bankruptcy, and

approximately 1,350 GM dealers are expected to be shut down. This provision would give these dealers an avenue to argue their cases.

-30-